

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-6, 8-10 and 12-13 have been amended. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Claims 14-16 have been added. Claims 1-10 and 12-16 are pending and under consideration. Claims 8 and 9 are objected to. No new matter is presented.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsukamoto (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0048033).

Tsukamoto discusses "The external interface control module 1724 controls data transfer to and from software for controlling input/output of data to and from the card slots 121 and 122 and other control software. Card slot driver software 1728 and 1730 for each card slot are disposed under the external interface control module 1724. Each of the driver software 1728 and 1730 is supplied from the ROM 102 of the body of the apparatus or from another card or stored in the memory card. The driver software is adapted to the body of the apparatus and to the card set in each card slot to operate the set card so as to control data transfer between the body and the card." [see paragraph[0172].

However, Tsukamoto fails to discuss or suggest a detection unit "detecting whether a memory card installed in the host unit is the portable storage unit or the interface card" as recited in claims 1 and 6 of the present application (emphasis added).

In addition, Tsukamoto discusses "The interface card 1303 is made adaptable to the purpose, for example, any interface standard, such as Centronics, SCSI or RS232C, and any card standard, such as PCMCIA. In a case where the personal computer 1302 has control programs for controlling the body 1301 considered as a scanner, a printer or a modem, the program IC card 1304 is not required. The personal computer 1302 and the interface card 1303 are connected to each other through a connection cord 1305. The body 1301 includes the modem (118 shown in FIG. 26) and the NCU (119 shown in FIG. 26) as indicated by reference numeral 1306, the NCU being connected to the subscriber's line.) [paragraph[0143].

However, Tsukamoto fails to discuss or suggest a control unit "determining whether to execute the interface card, if the interface card is installed in the card slot according to the detection unit" as recited in claims 1 and 6.

In addition, claims 2-5 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 7-10 are patentable due at least to their depending from claim 6, as well as for the additional recitations therein.

Claim 11 has been canceled and the canceled features of claim 11 have been incorporated into amended claim 12.

Tsukamoto discusses "an additional function card 1602 for adding a function and a program IC card 1603 for storing a program and data for using the function of the additional function card 1602 are set to a body 1601 (the data communication apparatus according to this embodiment) the additional function card 1602 is exemplified by a storage card having a hard disk, a ROM or a RAM, or a calculation card having a coprocessor or a DSP."([0162])

However, Tsukamoto fails to discuss or suggest "wherein the programmed computer processor further executes the function extension type card to execute new printer functions" as recited in claim 12.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Tsukamoto does not disclose the invention as recited in claim 12.

Tsukamoto merely discusses "[a]n additional function card 1602 for adding a function and a program IC card 1603 for storing a program and data for using the function of the additional function card 1602 are set to a body 1601 (the data communication apparatus according to this embodiment). The additional function card 1602 is exemplified by a storage card having a hard disk, a ROM or a RAM, or a calculation card having a coprocessor or a DSP."([0163])

However, Tsukamoto fails to discuss or suggest "wherein the received function extension type card stores a plug-in program as a device driver; and the programmed computer processor executes the plug-in program to execute the function extension type card." as recited in claim 13(emphasis added).

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Tsukamoto fails to disclose the invention recited in claim 13.

Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-10, 12 and 13 is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS 14-26:

New claims 14-16 are provided to afford a varying scope of protection and include patentably distinguishing features similar to those of claim 1 and should be allowable.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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